

Two species of Agromyzidae (Diptera) new to the British fauna—Preparatory to publishing a report on the Diptera of the Kenfig National Nature Reserve, Glamorgan, I wish to formally record two species as yet unrecorded from the British Isles. Material is deposited in the collections of this museum, which will be publishing the full report in early 1995.

Agromyza prespans Spencer.

Described (Spencer, 1957: 35) from Macedonia. Spencer (1976: 136), in recording it from Sweden, cited its known distribution as being 'widespread in Europe from Macedonia (type series) through Austria to northern Germany (Berlin) but uncommon and local' and commented on its immature stages and biology as a leaf-miner of wheat, *Triticum aestivum* L. I collected a single male by sweeping on coastal dunes at the Kenfig N. N. R. on 11–13.vi.1990.

Phytomyza erigerophila Hering.

Described (Hering, 1927: 174) from Germany. Spencer (1976: 412) placed *Phytomyza archhieracii* Hering 1927: 173, also from Germany, as a junior synonym of it, commenting that 'although *archhieracii* has page priority over *erigerophila*, the latter name has been more widely used and I therefore treat *archhieracii* as junior synonym'. Spencer (1976: 412–413) further recorded this species from Denmark, Norway, Finland and near Grenoble, S. France, giving rearing records as being from leaf-mines on blue fleabane *Erigeron acer* L. and *E. uniflorum* L. in Norway and the latter host in S. France. Dr Spencer and I swept a large series of both sexes, mainly from *Clematis*, on the Merthyr Mawr dunes, Glamorgan on 16.vii.1986. I obtained a further male by sweeping a solitary pine tree, to which it might have been attracted by aphid honeydew, on the central dune area of the Kenfig N. N. R. on 16.ix.1993. It should be pointed out that *Erigeron canadensis* L., which has now been transferred to the genus *Conyza*, occurs widely in South Wales as an alien and is there becoming a common species. I must thank Dr Spencer for identifying the Merthyr Mawr material.—J. C. Deeming, Department of Zoology, National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NP.

REFERENCES

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 Spencer, K. A. 1957. Two new European species of Agromyzidae (Dipt.) *Entomologist's Mon. Mag.* 93: 35–36.
 Spencer, K. A. 1976. The Agromyzidae (Diptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. *Fauna Ent. Scand.* 5: 1–606 (pp. 1–304 separately bound under Part 1, pp. 305–606 under Part 2).

An interesting saproxylic fauna at Snelsmore Common, Berkshire.—Snelsmore Common is best known as Berkshire's largest and finest remaining area of heathland, but, as with so many old commons, there is also an old pasture-woodland interest associated with old trees around its fringes. This was well demonstrated during a brief visit on 9.vii.1994 when a number of interesting insects were found in association with the older trees along the lanes and droves approaching from the south.

The most interesting find was the nationally scarce moth *Morophaga choragella* D. & S. (Lepidoptera: Tineidae). Large numbers of empty pupal cases were found attached to pieces of *Inonotus dryadeus* (Pers. ex Fr.) Murr. bracket fungi which had been broken off from the base of an old oak at about SU 456703. Suspecting this moth, some of the fragments were retained to see if further moths would emerge,

which duly did a few days later. There are a few previous records from the county for this species, but this is a new locality (B. R. Baker, pers.comm). Remarkably, it is not known from Windsor Forest and Great Park, although occurs close by at Silwood Park.

There is a concentration of large old field oaks immediately to the north-west of Donnington Castle (SU 460693) and these were also inspected for insects. The largest tree held a population of the dermestid beetle *Ctesias serra* (F.) beneath loose bark on its trunk, and a single specimen of the scarce anobiid beetle *Dorcatoma chrysomelina* Sturm was found crawling over cuboidal red-rot exposed in the heartwood of another overmature tree alongside Castle Wood. These two species are of restricted occurrence nationally due to their requirement for large old trees, and the *Dorcatoma* is otherwise only known in the county from Windsor. Fallen oak branches contained the beetles *Scolytus intricatus* (Ratz.) and *Cylindrinotus laevioctostriatus* (Goeze) and the spider *Nuctenea umbratica* (Clerck).

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Ephemera lineata Eaton (Ephemeroptera: Ephemeridae) at Reading, Berkshire.—In August 1953 when operating a makeshift light trap at Tilehurst, just to the west of Reading, I trapped two large ephemerids and, thinking August rather late to see mayflies, both were kept for future reference. The insects were added to the meagre collection of Ephemeroptera at Reading Museum and given no further thought until 1958. Early that year, a keen young freshwater biologist, G. Harrison, a pupil at Leighton Park School, came to us and asked to see the Ephemeroptera collection. The drawer had an immediate effect upon our visitor who could not restrain himself from executing several jumps of delight! It appeared that the Tilehurst specimens were *Ephemera lineata* Eaton, known previously from the River Thames near Reading, Laleham, Teddington and Weybridge, but not recorded since 1901. Kimmins's FBA key (1954) added 'scarce in collections'. We decided to try and discover *lineata* nymphs and on 29.v hired a boat from the Tilehurst stretch of the Thames and, with the aid of a grab borrowed from Reading University, sampled the silty shoals for most of the afternoon. This proved totally unsuccessful. On 31.vii.1958 by arrangement with the then Thames Conservancy, a plug-in was obtained at Mapledurham Lock, about three miles upstream from Reading, and a Robinson trap operated there for three nights. This was again unsuccessful as far as *E. lineata* was concerned. Soon afterwards Harrison went off to Cambridge but maintained his interest in Ephemeroptera and I learned later that he had discovered *E. lineata* somewhere near his parents' home on the River Wye. This is reflected by Macan's comment in his 1961 key to ephemerid nymphs when referring to *E. lineata*: 'Rare. R. Wye and R. Thames'. By 1974 I had moved to my present address at Caversham Heights, less than half a mile north of the Thames, and on the humid night of 9.vii.1981 (minimum temperature 16 degrees centigrade) was delighted to trap a further specimen. Another was trapped on 13.vii.1987. My wife Heather noted another on our window on 23.vii.1991 and on 11.viii.1991, as we were walking home over Caversham Bridge just before midnight we noted many sub-imagines (50 plus) sitting nearby on a brightly lit shop window. Most recently, 12.vii.1994 another very humid night, a similarly large number of *E. lineata*, duns and spinners, were attracted to a mercury vapour lit sheet operated on our back lawn.